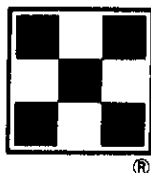
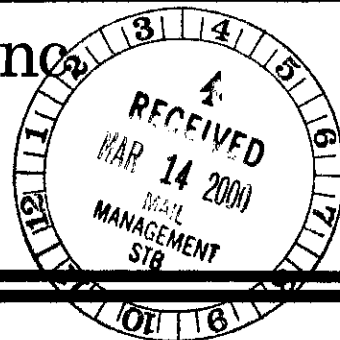


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Hancock Elevator Inc.

400 RAILROAD AVE
P O BOX 158
HANCOCK IOWA 51536
712-741-5437
800-451-0919



Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
12th Street & Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20423

ENTERED
Office of the Secretary

MAR 16 2000

Part of
Public Record

Re: Finance Docket No. 33842 , Canadian National Railway Company, Grand Truck Western Railroad Incorporated, Illinois Central Railroad Company , Burlington Northern Santa Fe Corporation , and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Company – Common Control

Dear Mr. Williams:

Hancock Elevator Inc , Hancock , Iowa submits this statement to state our support of the proposed CNIC/BNSF combination. Our support for the merger is based on access to additional markets. This will lead to improved prices which we believe to be in agriculture's best interests.

Hancock Elevator Inc is a shipper of grain from the Midwest across the country. We utilize BNSF for transportation of corn and soybeans. Rail is a major portion of our transportation and we see this merger improving access to new markets for everyone involved in agriculture, manufacturing, and trade.

I verify under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 7th of March, 2000.

Sincerely

John W. Coffelt
President – Hancock Elevator Inc.